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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for enhanced synthesis of biological macromolecules *in vitro*, the method comprising:

synthesizing said biological macromolecules in a reaction mixture comprising an antifoam agent.

- 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said synthesis of biological macromolecules comprises translation of mRNA to produce polypeptides.
- 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein said synthesis also comprises transcription of mRNA from a DNA template.
- 4. The method of Claim 2, wherein said reaction mix comprises a volume of greater than about 15 μ l.
- 5. The method of Claim 2, wherein said reaction mix comprises a volume of greater than about 100 μ l.
- 6. The method of Claim 4, wherein said reaction has a yield that is at least about 90% of the yield in a comparable small scale reaction.
- 7. A reaction mixture for synthesis of biological macromolecules *in vitro*, the improvement comprising:

an antifoam agent.

- 8. The reaction mixture of Claim 7, wherein said reaction mix comprises a volume of greater than about 15 μ l.
- 9. The reaction mixture of Claim 7, wherein said reaction mix comprises a volume of greater than about 100 μ l.
- 10. The reaction mixture of Claim 7, wherein said reaction generates a yield that is at least about 90% of the yield in a comparable small scale reaction.